

**DURHAM HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
THURSDAY – JANUARY 28, 2021 -- 6:30-7:30 pm**

Minutes

I. Call to Order and Establishment of Quorum. In attendance: Paula Erdmann Purdy, Page Crowley Atherton, Linda Litchfield, Lois Kilby-Chesley, Candace deCsipkes Absent: Mary Fallon, Anita

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Amendments to Agenda

IV. Acceptance of Minutes – corrections to names from Dec. meeting. Minutes accepted for November and December 2020

V. Informational Exchange – update on West Durham Methodist Church renovations, update on pictures at Town Hall, update on data base for surveys, update on the website.

VI. Continuing Business/Follow-up

1. Ordinances/membership. The Ordinance passed in November 2020 allowing an additional two alternate members on the DHDC. Openings will be advertised after Town Meeting in April.

2. Members' terms. Anita reaches the end of her term on DHDC in 2021. Please stop by the Town Office to readminister the oath. Others: 2022: Paula, Lois, Page, Candace. 2023: Mary, Linda

3. 751 Royalsborough Rd. The Hodges House, opposite Candy on Royalsborough Rd, needs to submit paperwork post-construction for the shed they have installed.

4. Union Church. The Durham Select Board has not moved forward on assigning members to the Union Church Committee.

5. Comprehensive Plan – Review zoom meeting. Where do we want to start?

a. Advise and assist individual property owner on available federal and state tax credits for historic preservation and assist them in the application process. Candy contacted Mike D Johnson at MHP. He sent a list of consultants that we can share with people needing help. This is primarily for Income Producing Properties. We may find it only applies to National Historic Register buildings.

b. Review the Historic District Ordinances to consider making it a Historic Protection Ordinance that applies to all listed structures in Durham, both inside and outside of the current Historic Preservation District. During COVID this is too difficult to accomplish. We need to do this work when we are together. We do have additional areas of interest in town including the Shiloh area, Methodist Corners, the Durham Friends Meetinghouse Corner area, and extending the current area on Royalsborough Road.

c. Work with Maine Historic Preservation Commission to assess the need for a comprehensive community survey of the community's historic and archaeological resources. We could begin surveying all buildings 50 years old or older (built before 1970). Candy spoke with Michael Goebel-Bain who recommended using Map Viewer to get started. We need a list of buildings that are important to Durham's history. GOCG called Candy back today. They may be helpful as we 1. Finish the database for buildings built before 1920, 2. Begin to consider buildings built before 1970, 3. Identify spots and buildings important to Durham's history.

d. Improve coordination between the Code Officer, Planning Board, and Historic District Commission in incorporating information provided by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission in the permit review process. Things are made more difficult because of COVID, but we could meet with the Codes Enforcement Officer and Town Planner on Zoom at a meeting. We need to be documenting changes to old buildings, including demolitions. It is important to consider becoming a town-wide Preservation Commission as we protect our past for future generations.

VII. New Business - We need to have representation on the Town Manager interview committee.

VIII. Other Business. - Next meeting: February 18, 2021

IX. To do: Candy will reach out to the necessary people.

X. Adjournment